Volume XIV Chicago, Ill., January, 1938 Number 10

The Liberalist

One result of the unbelief of our day is the tragedy of trying to live a maximum life on a minimum faith. How strange: in an age which will have no inhibitions, many are actually inhibiting the finest faculty of human nature.....What we need is not faith in more things, but more faith in a few profound things.

Some Problems of Life, Rufus M. Jones.

Published monthly by

The Peoples Church

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THE LIBERALIST

Preston Bradley ..... **Editor**
Grace Thayer Bradley ..... **Associate Editor**

Volume XIV Chicago, Ill., January, 1938 Number 10

MEDITATION

"We are deeply conscious at this hour that from one end of this broad land to the other there are hundreds and thousands of worshippers gathered in their respective temples of worship and inspiration. All over this continent at this moment there are those breaking the bread of life in the presence of those who are loyal and devoted to their particular church or creed. We are deeply conscious that with this infinite variety of emphases concerning the fundamental truths of religion that at this moment there is being released that spiritualizing energy necessary to the construction of life in terms of nobility of beauty and of power. And we would unite with all these hearts and with all this effort of the morning wherever the loyal and devoted Catholic commemorates the suffering and sorrow of his Master in the administration, conception and demonstration of that suffering by his act of worship, wherever the infinite varieties of Protestantism shall be raising their voices in the various aspects of their emphases and wherever those of other faiths and creeds shall be uniting their hearts and their minds in the unity of expressions of worship, so too our Church would unite with them in in the underneath values, those higher and more fundamental unities which make all religion one.

And we would send to every heart, not a part of some of these distinctive approaches to worship, but we would send to every life, the life that perhaps has no anchorage in any individual creed, the life which perhaps feels no loyalty to any individual church, the life that may be attempting to express life in terms of their own power, and perhaps such a one might feel this morning that they need a little inspiration too, that they need a little lift, that they have been so dependent upon the resources of themselves that now, at this moment, they feel the need of that which would help and inspire and make the load a trifle easier, and make the way a trifle brighter and so, it is our hope, deeply planted in our heart, that we might be the medium this day, this Church which we love and this work which we adore, that we might be the medium through which such a life might receive an inspiration that they otherwise might never have had.

And so, it is to the churchless and the unchurched, it is to those who do not find a part in the usual procedure or practices of religion that we would attempt to be a help this morning, and may it all be done in humility, in tolerance, and in the love which would characterize all true service.

And out into every heart suffering, or happy, remorseful, or jubilant, failing, or victorious, every life touching now this service, might they feel in the unity with their myriads of worshippers, their thousands of listeners, might we create in one mighty and beautiful expression a wave of inspiration and love which will leave as its beautiful offering a kinder, a fairer, a happier world.

May that be our prayer from the depths of our hearts in the beauty of our service this day."

"ARE YOU AN IF-ER"

Sermon by Dr. Preston Bradley, Pastor of The Peoples Church of Chicago, January 16th, 1938

"To those of us who have the responsibility and the privilege, and I might add the very great joy, of trying to be a help and an inspiration to people who are finding life difficult and severe, one of the most common attitudes which we run up against, in the discussion of these spiritual and moral tragedies which are all about us, is their willingness to find an excuse for their own condition and their own failures until those who have this opportunity of attempting to be a cure of souls and trying to help people to make those necessary mental, physical and spiritual adjustments by which they can live life in terms of higher victory are constantly making the effort to see these excuses in the light of their validity.

Now, there are excuses for our failures, of course. That's perfectly obvious, and most of us when we do fail seem to have the ability to put our finger upon the reason for that failure. Now, whether we find the right reason or not is quite another question, but to most of us we do have a reason, and one of the things which all failures seem to have in common is the fact that they can find an excuse for the failure. Whenever an individual comes to an utterly defeated position in life and everything seems swept out from underneath them, and life seems to have lost any power or any purpose, and the life becomes rudderless and a drifting tragedy, then, of course, the fine thing for them to do is to immediately expose themselves to some influence or personality which will be able to make a diagnosis which their own condition prevents them from doing for we can become so completely demoralized and so inadequate in our expression of life that we lack the capacity of self- diagnosis. I have seen minds and hearts so utterly unable, due to the completeness of their own devastation and the tragedy of their own situation, to see or have any perspective at all, it was utterly impossible for them to see things in true proportion and with any real sense of perspective as to what constitutes a fundamental value, and those kind of people are in desperation, of course. It is not enough just to tell those people that they should arouse themselves to the great powers that are within them. It is true that great powers are with them, that most of us have greater power than any of us realize we possess, that most of us have an inner capacity which, even in the most severe times, is adequate to more than compensate for any disaster which we might have. That is all true, the real power of a person's life is in their inner development and consciousness. That is all true, and the realization of that power in an individual's life can awaken such an experience of mastery that every difficulty will be surmounted and definitely overcome. But there are moments and there are individuals that have arrived at such an apparently hopeless situation, utter exhaustion of every kind that there does not seem to be any way at all out for that individual, and that is the time in the life of the individual when they should have the right kind of outside influence, but while the inner strength is there and the inner potentiality, they have seemingly for the time ceased to exist.

No matter what happens to the life there is a certain reserve, potentiality in every individual's life that nothing ever completely demolishes. No matter how sick we become mentally or physically

no matter what the tragedy might be in our life as affecting the morality of life, no matter what happens, there is a certain reserve within the inner personality of every individual that never completely is eliminated from the life.

And, of course, that is the very essence upon which we can begin all self recovery, all rehabilitation and all of that necessary inspiration by which we can reconstruct our individual lives. But there are people who just simply feel, apparently, that the only answer for them, in the presence of their own failure, is to begin to make excuses for them, and the excuses are always a revelation. Every excuse we make is a telltale of our own inadequacy and incompetency. When I make an excuse for my own failure, I am revealing my own inadequacy. Every excuse that an individual makes, every 'if' that they use, is an illustration of their own inadequacy. Every excuse is a creation of yourself. We create these attitudes and the facility with which we find them about us as the reasons and answers for our own failures constitutes one of the things that we ought to be rethinking and reawakening and reunderstanding.

What an important place this little word does play in every individual's life! I suppose there is no word in our language, certainly no two-letter word that plays the important part in our lives that this little word does of only two letters 'i-f' if. Why sometimes, if you just sit down and entertain yourself by going over your own life and injecting into every important experience of your life what would have happened 'if,' you will be amazed at what you will discover. What would have happened 'if,' and then fill in the blank with something that was apparently almost incidental, certainly at the moment it seemed to be insignificant, but what did it do to your life? What has this little word done to mine? Just look back to some of the experiences of your life, experiences which changed your whole future, experiences that changed your entire outlook. Sometimes they happen quickly and suddenly, a flash of lightning from a clear sky, and life was never the same, and the fact of the matter is that good psychology is now perfectly demonstrating that some of the experiences which have the most effect upon our individual life are the experiences which come quickly, suddenly, and are of only a temporary or lasting duration. A whole life changed in the twinkling of an eye, and why not? This can happen suddenly, I have found evidence after evidence in individual lives as well as my own, something happening in the twinkling of an eye and life is never the same.

In the older days of a less mature philosophy there was something which we called 'conversion,' and that conversion, under an orthodox emphasis, had to do with the complete rearrangement of human life due to their change of loyalties, they were converted to religion, and other loyalties which had commanded all of their energies they now utterly deserted while they found new loyalties in a church which practiced a religious philosophy, and the life completely changed and the things which they once did they did no more, and the things they once loved no longer had any appeal, this was called, in the old religious sense, conversion,—psychologically, fundamentally sound. A change of loyalties changed a life and a change of loyalties always does change a life. Let me see the things which command your energies, let me understand the enthusiasms that dominate your devotions, let me understand the things which excite you and make you alive and aware, and I will, rather accurately, I think, predicate your future. And when we come into that aspect of life where we reverse, change

re-adjust, re-align our loyalties, then we come into that definite experience which in our English word is a conjuction of the old Latin 'converto' conversion, which means a changed life, and men and women need that impetus. There are people who come to such an utter exhaustion of life emotionally, morally, physically, their utter lack of restraint, their utter lack of discipline, their utter lack of control, the utter lack of dignity, and the utter lack of considering the sacred quality of the life which they have, that nothing is apparently able to remake their lives except a sudden awakening or a definite shock that there must be a change of loyalties, that there must be a deep-seated conversion. Conversion is fundamentally sound, and there are people so twisted and chaotic in their life expression, exhausting themselves by all the artificial stimuli that runs so majestically and powerfully in the modern current of life depending upon artificial enthusiasms and false stimuli that only, in their inevitable reactions, leave the victim further from victory, and instead of helping to solve, only add to the inefficiency of the individual experiencing the tragedy.

Therefore, I love to voice that thought to souls that are in turmoil and in confusion, the tragedy of depending upon the excuse for the validity of failure. We must admit the excuses, of course, and I have here a list that I am going to take time to read to you, and some of it will be quite amusing, some of the 'ifs' that we run into. Now, of course, I don't want to be personal about this, and if I happen to run into your little pet 'if' I want you to know that it is so universal that you can claim no distinction for it yourself, and therefore it would be impossible for you to malign me for revealing any individual secrets. No true Father Confessor ever does that, so don't you be alarmed. If these things belong to you, then, of course, I am doing you a distinct service by calling your attention to their inadequacy and incompetency.

Well, I shall just begin anywhere, there is no use beginning at the beginning, because there is no beginning, but here are some things which I have heard, and here are some things which people have come to me with lives all broken up, victims of this and that, who tried to pull themselves up by their own bootstraps, feeling a sense of inadequacy within themselves and all kinds of failures come, financial, moral, physical, spiritual tragedies, and then I talk to them, and then they begin—'If.' And I have never known a failure yet that did not have 'if'—I have never known a person yet who did not begin with an 'if.' So, I will just start anywhere.

A man comes to me in a domestic demoralization and believe it or not, what does he say? 'If I hadn't a wife and family.' There was a man who felt that a wife and family was a positive handicap! Well, I can preach another sermon on that. I am ready to admit that there are some men who never should have been blessed with what is probably the greatest blessing of this world, a wife and family. We admit that, but we never admit in a truly coordinated life that a man's family has ever been an excuse for his own failures, he needs to make some inner adjustments himself. Well, now, I had not better stop to preach a sermon on each one of these ifs or you will be here all afternoon and I have a busy day, but I will hastily go right down through them, there are about 50 or 60 and they are very interesting. 'If I had not a wife and family.' Here's one of the most common of all, 'if I had enough pull.' Every day of my life somebody comes to me and says: 'I could be at work if I had a pull,' and they want me to be the 'pull.' And the funny part of it is that I try to be whenever they ask that.

'If I had money!' If I had

money, who couldn't use that if? If I had money, and yet a most superficial observation, a most casual glance at the people who do have money is rather convincing that some of them are losing a great deal in life. It is not enough to have money, yet a lot of people think 'if I only had money, money!'

Another one is somewhat sad because whenever this 'if' is used at me, I sometimes recognize how true it is, it is rather valid—'if I had a good education.' There's a valid 'if' and one which has really stood in the way. 'If I could get a job.' 'If I had good health,' and here's one 'if I only had time.' 'If I only had time!' Do you know who you want to find and seek out if you really want to get something done? Find the busy person, never find the individual who says 'if I only had the time,' find the busy person. I have discovered that the few people who always have time in this world are people who are busy. I think I am almost as busy as anybody in this Church, or perhaps anybody listening to me, and yet in spite of that I try to find time, and I do, I try to find time to see my sick, and I have a sick list every week and every person on that sick list I visit, I see them and can find time, and sometimes the people who don't find time are the people who have more time than anything else.

Here's one that we hear quite often now, 'if times were better.' You see in each one of these excuses these little 'ifs.' I told you I was going to talk this morning on 'Are you an if-er?' and I have.

Here's one, 'if other people only understood me.' How many people there are in this world that are just so filled with self-pity and feeling sorry for their own failures and tragedies and they look you in the face and with a sort of expression somewhere between nausea and pain, they will look you in the face and say: 'if other people only understood me.' None use the other 'if'—'if I only understood **myself.**' Don't worry about other people understanding you, the trouble is that other people understand you much better than you think they do, and perhaps because they understand you as well as they do is the reason you have some of the trouble you do. It is not that they don't understand you enough, it is that they understand you too well. So don't give yourself away by using that.

'If conditions around me were only different.' Here's one that throbs with tragedy—'if I could live my life over again!' Tragic, it is always tragic for anybody to get themselves into such a position with life that they wish they could live it over again to change it. Live life so that you really wish you could live it over again? There have been experiences in my life so horrifying that the thought of relieving them is unentertainable. There are other experiences which I would like to live over and over and over again, but the sad cry 'if I could live my life over again' what to do about it? Immediately, at once, quickly, quickly, every individual who voices that tragedy with you, with me, make up your mind to this truth. Settle it once and for all in your minds. **IT CANNOT BE DONE! THERE IS NO WAY IN THE WORLD THAT ANY OF US CAN LIVE LIFE OVER AGAIN.** We cannot do it, therefore, be a man or a woman in your attitude toward the helplessness of trying to live life over again by determining, from this moment, that you will live life so that a week from today, month from today, a year from today, ten years from today you can say, 'I would like to live my life over again' not **'if'** I could live my life over again, but ' I would like to live my life over again.' You see the difference? So make up your mind that you cannot go back and live it over, you have got to start where it is.

Here is another very common one—'if I did not fear what they

would say.' Another—'if I had been given a chance.' 'If I now had a chance.' 'If other people did not have it in for me.'

These are all very practical things growing right out of life. 'If nothing happens to stop me.' And here is one with a tinge of sadness 'If I were only younger.' 'If I could only do what I want.' People by the score say that to me: 'O, Doctor Bradley, if I could only do what I want.' How do you know you can't? You limit yourself by the 'if.' **We create by our mental attitudes, and no one can ever succeed without creating within themselves the great desire for honest and honorable victory by their own mental attitude toward it.** You can think failure you can think victory. I rather use the word 'victory' than 'success' because it takes it out of the vocabulary of the cheap idea that life is only great when it is successful in a sense that you know what I mean. I think of victory instead of success as the achievement.

Here's one I hear a lot—'if I had been born rich.' 'If I could meet the right people.' 'If I dared assert myself.' 'If I only had embraced past opportunities.' It is gone. You know the old fallacy that 'Opportunity only knocks once,' and that one about Utter fallacy! Nothing to it at all! Talk about opportunity knocking once, why opportunity is pounding, pounding, pounding away, always, every day, pounding away at your heart and mine. Don't say, 'if I only had embraced past opportunities.' 'If people did not get on my nerves.' That says more about your nerves than it does the people. 'If people did not get on my nerves. 'If I didn't have to keep house and look after the children.' 'If I could save some money.' 'If the boss only appreciated me.' 'If I only had somebody to help me.' 'If my family understood me.' 'If I lived in a big city.' I put that in because I had a letter from a radio listener last week in which they thought that was the only thing standing between them and success, that they could not do what they wanted to do because they did not live in a big city. 'If I could get started.' 'All I need to do is to just get started.' They come around and talk about failure because they cannot get started. This ought to awaken a response from some of you—'If I were only free.' As though there was any such thing as freedom without implied responsibility to society! 'If I were only free.' 'If I had the personality of some people.' Well, heres one that I was not going to put in, I really should leave this one out, but I cannot help it, because I think a true sense of humor is a salvation to us, and I hope always to retain a sense of humor—I want to die when I cannot laugh—but I want to retain my sense of humor and even though this is a church and a religious broadcast, and I suppose we should not stoop to any such thing as levity or be funny, but here is one 'if' which I have had come to me—'If I were not so fat.' Lots of people use that.

Well, I must hurry. O, I could preach a sermon on each one of these. 'If my talents were only known.' Many people interfering with their own success and their own future because their talents are not known. Here's a universal one—'If I could just get a break.' 'Just a break, that's all I want, just get a break.' And most of you do, and you stop dead still. A 'break' has ruined more than one person. Well, here's one that we can all heave a sigh over —'If I could only get out of debt.' 'If I could only get out of debt.' 'If everybody didn't oppose me.' I run into that quite often. 'If I did not have so much worry.' And this one—'If I could only marry the right person.' Here's one I heard the other day—'If people were not so dumb.' Well, there is nothing that I know of that you can do with dumb people. People are dumb, they are just plain dumb and you might as well make

the best of it. So don't get excited about trying to make them over for you cannot do anything with a dumb person, not a thing. **EXCEPT** don't let them influence you, and that, of course, you can do. Dumb people don't worry me, it is the bright ones that have me puzzled!

Heres one that some of you might have used, I know some who have—'If my family were not so extravagant.' This address is going to be a subject for dinner conversations today in this town! 'If I were sure of myself.' 'O, if I were'—but who is? So what's the use of worrying with that one. 'If luck were not against me.' 'If it were not true that what is to be will be.' 'If I did not have to work so hard.' 'If I hadn't lost my money.' 'If I lived in a different neighborhood.' 'If I did not have a past.' 'If only I had a business of my own,' your troubles would begin. You want to thank God you have not. You know the old story they told during the period of the first depression when they said that a man came home one evening crying and sniveling to his wife and said: 'O, my dear, the worst has happened!' And she said, 'John, don't tell me you have lost your job?' 'No, no, I didn't lose my job,' he said, 'the boss gave me the business.' So don't worry about having a business of your own—**yet.**

And here's one that is constantly being used by people, particularly by people who have plans for saving the world, and I have 7 million, 824 thousand of those plans sent to me from all over the country, "How to Save the World," and they always say to me, 'If I could only get people to listen to me.' 'If I could only get people to listen to me!'

I have told you in this pleasant sort of manner, by holding the mirror up to ourselves, some of the great preventatives of life in terms of victory, but the greatest 'If' of all I have not mentioned, and what is that? **'IF I ONLY HAD THE COURAGE TO SEE AND KNOW MYSELF AND DARED TURN UPON MYSELF THE WHITE LIGHT AND REVEAL EVERY CREVICE OF MY LIFE THAT I MIGHT BEGIN, IN MY OWN HEART AND IN MY OWN LIFE, TO CREATE FOR MYSELF THE VICTORY OF LIFE TO WHICH I AM ENTITLED.'** Instead of alibis we could call them opportunities, for every alibi is an opportunity, and what a place in our lives has been occupied by that little word 'If.'

One mid-summer afternoon, I, as a little boy playing upon the banks of a stream in our little town, and running along that little stream, the Shiawassee River, slipped and fell into it, and **if** a man, who may now be listening to this broadcast, Mr. Alfred Marble of Albion, Michigan, had not seen me fall and being carried on with the current, for he lifted me, helpless, from that stream, **if** he had not been there, I would have drowned at the age of 5, **but he was there.** If a group of rowdies from a little Michigan town who were on a train going out from Detroit on the Grand Trunk to a little Michigan town had not become involved in a brawl, a fight and a quarrel, and sitting in the coach where it took place was a young lad from Canada on his way to Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he hoped to obtain employment in a carriage factory, and if that young man from Canada had not been a passenger on that train that night he never would have met my mother, and called back, as he was, to that little town, which he had never heard of, as a witness, subpoenaed, as the result of that quarrel on that Michigan train, my father would never have seen or known my mother. If, a little thing like that, that 'if' astounds me at times. 'If' I had not taken a train 27 years ago as a young student in this city and happened to have a seat beside a gentleman who turned to me and said: 'Where are you going?' and I said: 'I am going out to preach in a

little church at Custer Park,—and I am wondering if there is anyone in Custer Park listening to these words today who remembers the boy preacher who stood in their pulpit more than 27 years ago and who was dreaming of his own future in the Church? He turned to me and said: 'I happen to be an officer of a Church in Chicago, and we would like to have you come and preach for us some time, and it was the beginning of a friendship which in a few weeks resulted in my preaching in that Church, and my Chicago career was started.

Ah, the 'ifs' of life. Let us not use them as alibis for our failures, let us use them as stepping stones to our victories!"

THE WOMAN'S CLUB

December always the busiest month in the year, got off to a good start with the annual Bazaar, now gone into Church and Club history, as a grand and glorious success in spite of frightful weather on the last day and evening. There was splendid attendance both days and evenings, partaking of the excellent luncheons and dinners served by the ladies, shopping at the booths filled with almost everything one can think of, until they were sold out, laughing chatting, refreshing with ice cream or munching delicious sticky popcorn balls, enjoying the pleasant fellowship and jubilant atmosphere which always prevails in Channing Hall on these occasions.

We are deeply grateful to all the friends, both Radio and members, who gave the many lovely things which were offered for sale, or who came and purchased these articles or in any way helped make this bazaar the success we are happy to state it was.

On December 13th, Dr. Bradley addressed the club on the subject "Why I Like Chicago." He spoke with enthusiasm of Chicago's achievements her romantic history, the opportunities she offered her citizens and students who come from all over the world, her art and music and the beauty she already has and which is constantly added to.

On December 20th, the club presented on their afternoon program, Mr. James Bradley-Griffin who read a cutting of the current play "Tovarich" by Jacques Deval, which has had such a long success in London and New York and at present in Chicago. Mr. Bradley - Griffin's interpretation was most amusingly and splendidly given.

Announcements for January club programs sound very interesting. Mrs. Reynolds, Chairman of Legislation, and Mrs. Lanfer, Chairman of Civil Service, will present a double program, with Mrs. Carl H. Bartling, State Chairman of Legislation, and Mr. Michael F. Ryan, attorney for Civil Service Protective Association as speakers. Then January 24th, is the date set for the Mid-Season Tea. This is always a very special day in the Club year. Mr. George Nelson, Baritone, and Mr. Robert Metzler, accompanist will give the musical part of the program, and Dr. Bradley will be the speaker, his subject being "The Greatest Thing in the World."

THE BOOK LECTURES

The large number of people attending the Book Lectures every Wednesday evening in the Peoples Church, is really remarkable. They come regardless of weather rain or snow or sub-zero. The most heartening thing these days of apprehension when we wonder at night time what will happen in the world by the next morning—is the fact that people are thinging—people are hungry and anxious to hear what the scholarly minds—the informed minds have to say about the questions and the problems upon which these minds are expressing themselves in the books they have written. It is most encouraging and inspiring too to Dr. Bradley to find

so many in his audience every Wednesday to hear his opinions and comments on these books that are inviting the interest of educated people everywhere. The books discussed by Dr. Bradley in January were: January 5th: "The Importance of Living," by the Chinese philosopher and writer, 'Lin Yutang. A book that every one who can should own and read over and over. January 12th: "Some For the Glory," by Louis Zaea (not as good as some he has written.) January 19th: "America's 60 Families," by Ferdinand Lundberg.

The evening of this lecture there were 2505 people in the Church filling the auditorium and Channing Hall where a loud speaker was installed, and several hundred who came were turned away. So Dr. Bradley spoke again on the same subject the following Sunday evening that those who were disappointed by not getting in Wednesday evening could hear it Sunday. And again there were 2500 people inside and hundreds turned away.

January 26th, "I Yahweh," by Robert Minson Grey, was another great book with a wealth of knowledge between its pages.

Books announced for February lectures are February 2nd: "Prodigal Parents," by Sinclair Lewis. February 9th: "Madam Curie," A Biography by Eve Curie. February 16th: "Japan Defies the World," by James Scherer. February 23rd: "This Proud Heart," by Pearl S. Buck.

YOUNG PEOPLES CLUB

The young people have been enjoying some very pleasant meetings and splendid programs. Young people in the church who are not members of this organization are really missing something educationally and socially. At the recent election of officers several were re-elected. The official staff stands as follows:

President: Roger Miller; Vice President, James Code; Treasurer, Dorothea Blomquist; Recording Secretary, Florence Weeks; Corresponding Secretary, Marie Tilles.

The officers appreciate your attendance, and welcome all suggestions. A club functions best when all members co-operate. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please inform any of the officers and they will be happy to place you.

Schedule:

January 31st— Y. P. C. meeting in Bradley Hall 8:30. Speaker: James Code Vice President. Young People's Club. Subject: "California Impressions." Refreshments will be served.

February 6th—Uptown Players' Tea. Bradley Hall. 4:00 p. m. (See Church Leaflet for full details.)

February 6th—Please plan to attend Church services with the Y. P. C. This Sunday will be observed throughout the nation as Youth Sunday. It is being sponsored through the Young Peoples' Religious Union of which our club is a member. There will be reserved seats on the right hand side of the main floor.

February 7th—Y. P. C. Valentine Party. Bradley Hall, 8:30 p. m. There will be a Valentine Box for you to place your Valentines in. Each member is requested to bring 5 penny Valentines; in this way each member will be sure to receive a Valentine. Games and refreshments.

February 11th—Dinner-Dance. First Unitarian Church, 57th and Woodlawn Avenue. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p. m. If you cannot arrange to attend the dinner do come later and join in the dancing. Reservations must be made through the corresponding secretary not later than February 9th.

February 20th—Y. P. C. Forum. Channing Hall. 4:30 p. m. Speaker: Lafe E. Soderstrom, American Federation of Labor organizer. Subject: "Labor's Struggle for Power." Question box follows:

February 21st—Y. P. C. Meeting. Bradley Hall. 8:30 p. m. Speaker: George Utley, head librarian, Newberry Library. Subject: "History of the English Bible." Refreshments.

February 24th—A very important date to you to mark down in your calendar. Dr. Bradley will commemorate his 26th year as pastor of the Peoples Church. The Y. P. C. plan to reserve a place for each member of the Club.

Place: Drake Hotel. (Informal.)
Time: 6:30 p. m.
Cost: $2.00 per person.

Reservations may be made through the corresponding secretary. Payment may be made at any of the club meetings. **No reservations will be accepted after Monday, February 21st.**

The officers are very desirous of making the club successful, but they cannot do it alone. Each member, therefore, is asked to support all activities. We hope you will be able to attend all of the above meetings.

Marie Tilles,
Corresponding Secretary.

Doctor Bradley kept the following engagements during the month of December:

1—Book lecture. Peoples Church
2—Peoples Church Bazaar
3—Church Bazaar
5—Two services. Peoples Church
5—Address. Chicago Lodge, B. P. O. E. No. 4
6—Address. Logan Square Congregation
7—Address. First Presbyterian Church, Sturgis, Mich.
8—Book Lecture. Peoples Church
9—Address. Antioch Business and Professional Woman's Club
10—Meeting. Marshall Field and Co.
10—Address. North Shore Animal Shelter
12—Two Services, Peoples Church
13—Meeting. Normal School Board
13—Address. Woman's Club of the Peoples Church
13—Meeting. Library Board
13—Meeting. Board of Trustees of Church
14—Address. Morgan Park High School
15—Book Lecture. Peoples Church
16—Address. W. C. F. L.
18—Address. Daughters of American Colonists
19—Two services. Peoples Church
20—Service. Peoples Church
22—Book Lecture. Peoples Church
23—Sunday School Party. Peoples Church
25—Sermon. Peoples Church
26—Two Sermons. Peoples Church
29—Address. Borrowed Time Club
29—Book Lecture. Peoples Church

FUNERALS

2—Dr. L. C. Watkins. Interment, Rosehill
4—Mrs. Marie L. Schmidt. Interment, Graceland
21—Mrs. Ida Kernotte. Interment, Mount Hope
24—Mrs. Wallace Grosse. Interment, Chebanoe, Ill.
27—Mrs. Lillian Hartman. Interment, Oak Hill
29—Mrs. Eastman. Interment, Graceland

WEDDINGS

1—William C. Dunn and Frances Susanka
4—Jock A. Defresne and Gail Waggoner
11—William M. Rootes and Audrey M. Bradley
12—Clarence N. McNanley and Patricia Devereaux
18—Paul D. McClintock and Florence Thomas
19—Benson B. Newman and Ruth Gordon
25—Frank J. Thomas and Marjorie Brockenbrough
25—William Fidler and Nelle Caton

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$10.00 for the church year. Now is the time to make your reservation at the church office for next season. The fee is payable at your convenience. The principal thing is to get your reservation in early to be assured of the seat you prefer. The seats are held until five minutes before the Choir Processional which on many Sunday mornings prevents the necessity of arriving early for choice locations. Kindly write the church office or phone Longbeach 6878 and reservations will be made.

THE LIBERALIST

Every month for the past 14 years we have published this little magazine. Each issue has contained a sermon as delivered from our pulpit and stenographically reported. Dr. Bradley uses no sermon notes and these published sermons are the only record of his message. Other articles by him and Mrs. Bradley appear as time permits. Altogether the magazine is well worth the one dollar a year for which it is mailed to any address anywhere. The cost of mailing is deducted from the annual subscription and the small balance goes directly into the church treasury to assist in the work of liberal religion. The advertisers make the magazine possible and we hope every subscriber will mention the appreciation whenever the opportunity is afforded. If you are already a subscriber why not subscribe for an out of town friend?

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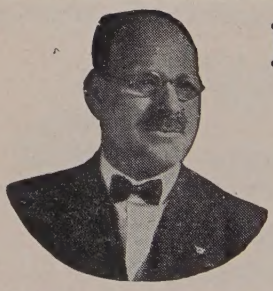

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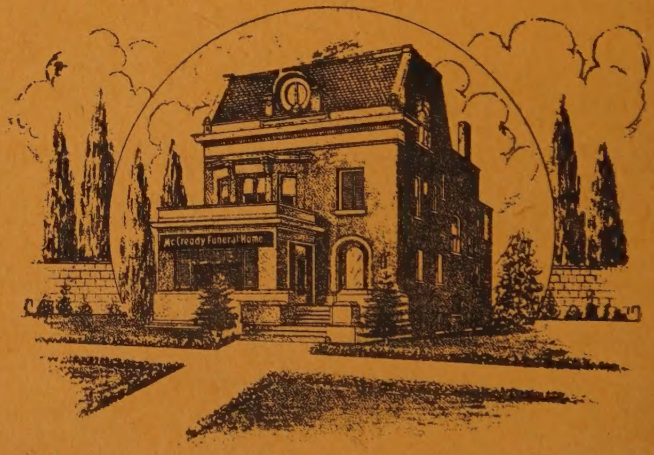

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